

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 5386

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XM, US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS AMONG POLICY PLANNING STAFFS

REF: STATE 192211

1. SUMMARY: WE APPLAUD SECRETARY'S INTENTION TO
PROPOSE BILATERAL POLICY PLANNING CONSULTATIONS WITH
CERTAIN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING CHILE. OUR

MESSAGE SKETCHES FRAMEWORK PROVIDED BY CURRENT CONDITIONS
IN CHILE AND MAKES PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS AS REQUESTED
REFTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. WE BELIEVE CHILEANS WILL WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO
PARTICIPATE IN PROPOSED POLICY PLANNING CONSULTATIONS WITH
KEY DEPARTMENT PLANNERS, AND WE IN EMBASSY HOPE VERY MUCH
THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE. THIS COUNTRY
NOT ONLY FEELS BUT IS REMOTE, EVEN IN THE LATIN AMERICAN
CONTEXT. HAVING RECENTLY PASSED THROUGH A SERIES OF
TRAUMATIC EVENTS OF EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL POLITICAL
AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE, IT TENDS ON ONE HAD
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TO BE EXCESSIVELY SELF-CENTERED AND INTROSPECTIVE:

AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS CONCERNED BY ITS RELATIVE
ESTRANGEMENT FROM SO MANY OF ITS OLD FRIENDS IN EUROPE
AND NORTH AMERICA.

3. CHILE HAS NO REAL POLICY PLANNERS IN MOST AREAS
OF S/P INTEREST. WHILE PLANNING OFFICES AND COMMITTEES
ABOUND, THEY ARE GENERALLY DEVOTED TO STUDYING SPECIFIC, SHORTER
RANGE PROBLEMS OF INTERNAL POLITICAL ORGANIZATION OR ECONOMY.
EXCEPT IN THE ECONOMIC AREA, THE JUNTA HAS ALLOCATED
VIRTUALLY ALL ITS MAJOR EXECUTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE
POSTS TO ACTIVE OR RETIRED MILITARY OFFICERS WHO HAVE
HAD NO EXPERIENCE IN POLITICS OR IN CIVILIAN ADMINISTRATION.
THEY VARY ENORMOUSLY IN THEIR CAPACITY TO GOVERN, BUT
BROAD-GAUGED PLANNING IS SCARCELY THEIR FORTE. BUT
IN THEIR REACTION TO AMBASSADOR EBERLE AND OTHER VISITING
AMERICAN OFFICIALS, THEY HAVE PROVED EAGER TO LISTEN AND
LEARN, AND FORTHCOMING WITH THEIR OWN IDEAS.

4. WE PARTICULARLY WELCOME YOUR INTENTION TO MAKE THESE
SESSIONS GENERAL AND LONG RANGE, EMPHASIZING THE USG'S
APPROACH TO GLOBAL SECURITY AND TO THE "NEW DIALOGUE."
THE PREVAILING IDEOLOGY HERE, ENDLESSLY DINNED INTO
PEOPLE'S HEADS THROUGH ALL THE MEDIA, IS A SIMPLISTIC,
TWO-DIMENSIONAL INSISTENCE ON THE OVERRIDING
IMPORTANCE OF DEFEATING "MARXISM" IN CHILE AND BY
EXTENSION IN THE REST OF THE WORLD. IN THIS CONTEXT
CHILEAN HARD-LINERS LOOK ASKANCE AT OUR POLICY OF
DETENTE AS A FORM OF SHORT-SIGHTED WEAKNESS FOR
WHICH WE AND PERHAPS THEY WILL WULTIMATELY PAY DEARLY.
IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO EXPLAIN TO THE CHILEANS WHY
DETENTE AT THE GREAT POWER LEVEL IS A NCESSITY; HOW
IT AFFECTS SMALLER POWERS; AND WHY THE CHILEANS SHOULD
BE THINKING ABOUT THEIR OWN SITUATION IN THIS REGARD.

5. IT WILL BE EQUALLY USEFUL TO DISCUSS
THE "NEW
DIALOGUE" WITH THE CHILEANS. THEY RISK BEING
SERIOUSLY OUT OF STEP WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN NATIONS
BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN SPECIAL PERCEPTIONS AND EXPERIENCE.
THE CUBAN PARTICIPATION IN THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT LEFT
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THEM IN A HIGHLY ALLERGIC STATE; THEY WILL ACCEPT
WITH RESIGNATION WHAT THEY THINK IS BOUND TO TAKE
PLACE WITH REGARD TO THE HEMISPHERE'S CUBA POLICY, BUT
THEY ARE CONVINCED IT WILL BE A MISTAKE. AND THE NEW
CHILEAN FOREIGN INVESTMENT LAW, WHICH UNDERCUTS THE
ANDEAN PACT'S DECISION 24 IN ORDER TO STIMULATE
MUCH-NEEDED FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN CHILE, MOVES IN A
DIRECTION VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE DOMINANT TREND ON

THIS CONTINENT. CHILEANS WILL BE HELPED BY SOME INDICATION OF OUR THINKING, AND BY THE OPPORTUNITY TO REASSESS THEIR VIEWS IN THE LIGHT OF OURS.

6. WE WOULD AGREE THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR A PLANNING TEAM TO VISIT ARGENTINA, PERU AND CHILE DURING THE SAME TRIP. THE NEED FOR BALANCE BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU IS OBVIOUS, AND OUR PLANNERS MIGHT DRAW INTERESTING CONCLUSIONS FROM THE CONTRASTS IN POLITICAL THOUGHT AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE THREE COUNTRIES.

7. TURNING TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS IN REFTTEL, WE WOULD SUGGEST FOLLOWING.

8. TWO FULL DAYS SEEM TO US ABOUT RIGHT FOR DURATION OF VISIT, WITH MORNING AND AFTERNOON MEETINGS AND APPROPRIATE WORKING SOCIAL FUNCTIONS. WE WOULD SUGGEST PARTICIPANTS BE DRAWN FROM AMONG THE FOLLOWING: IN FONOFF, SUBSECRETARY COMANDANTE CLAUDIO COLLADOS, PLUS TOP ADVISERS ENRIQUE BERNSTEIN AND RICARDO CLARO; FROM ECONOMIC SPECIALISTS, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC COORDINATION RAUL SAEZ, PLUS FINANCE MINISTER JORGE CAUAS OR SUBSECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF ECONOMY SERGIO DE CASTRO; FROM THE JUNTA APPARATUS, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF GOVT COL. PEDRO EWING AND JUNTA ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN GEN. CANESSAV; FROM THE MILITARY, GEN. HERMAN BRADY, CHIEF OF NATIONAL DEFENSE STAFF IN DEFENSE MINISTRY. WE WILL MAKE MORE SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS WHEN AGENDA IS DETERMINED.

9. WE BELIEVE TALKS COULD USEFULLY COVER FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS OF INTEREST TO CHILE: PERUVIAN-CONFIDENTIAL

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CHILEAN RELATIONS, THE SOVIET FACTOR, AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THIRD COUNTRIES; CONSEQUENCES OF FOREIGN AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES IN CHILE; INTER-AMERICAN ASPECTS OF GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES; LONG-RANGE PROSPECTS FOR USEFUL COOPERATION ON LAW OF THE SEA MATTERS; US TRADE POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO LDC'S; FUTURE OF US ECONOMIC AND MILITARY AID TO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES; IMPLICATIONS OF COMMODITY PRICES AND SHORTAGES (PETROLEUM AND FOOD PARTICULARLY) FOR CHILE; PROSPECTS FOR CARTELS COVERING PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO CHILE, SUCH AS COPPER AND IRON; FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS RE NUCLEAR TESTS AND NON-PROLIFERATION.

10. ASSUMING THERE WOULD BE FOUR MAJOR SESSIONS IN TWO DAYS, SUBJECTS SUCH AS THE FOREGOING COULD BE GROUPED UNDER THE FOLLOWING HEADINGS: (1) WORLD PROBLEMS --US VIEW; (2) NEW DIALOGUE; (3) CHILE'S POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND MILITARY PERSPECTIVES; (4) IMPACT ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF EMERGING WORLD PROBLEMS; E.G., LAW OF THE SEA AND SEABED; FOOD; ENVIRONMENT; NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION; RAW MATERIALS ACCESS AND MARKETING.

11. WE BELIEVE MIDDLE OCTOBER THROUGH NOVEMBER WOULD BE A GOOD PERIOD IN WHICH TO SCHEDULE MEETINGS (AFTER FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM UNGA). WE WOULD LIKE TO INVOLVE MINISTERS IN AS MUCH OF DISCUSSION AS WE CAN, GIVEN THEIR LIMITED TIME. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE SOCIAL EVENTS TO GIVE US GROUP FULL OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THEM, AS WELL AS UNOFFICIAL CHILEANS OF VARIOUS PERSUASIONS. PLEASE INFORM WHETHER ANY PORTION OF MEETINGS CAN BE HELD IN SPANISH.

12. WE DOUBT US PLANNING OFFICERS WOULD GET VERY MUCH OUT OF A FULL MEETING WITH IGLESIAS OR ECLA. IGLESIAS WILL BE GLAD TO PICK GROUP'S BRAINS. HE MIGHT HAVE SOME INTERESTING INSIGHTS TO OFFER, BUT ESSENTIALLY OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT HIS IS AN ORGANIZATION IN SEARCH OF A USEFUL MISSION, SO THAT DISCUSSION IS NOT LIKELY

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TO BE PRODUCTIVE FOR US. WE WOULD SUGGEST A SHORT MEETING WITH IGLESIAS, OR INCLUDING HIM IN A SOCIAL FUNCTION.

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